

REMARKS

Claims 1, 30, 34, 44-45, and 47-50 are pending in the present application. By this amendment, claims 1, 30, 34, 44-45, 48, and 50 are amended. Claims 2-10, 31-33, 35-43, and 46 are canceled without prejudice. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present claims in view of the following remarks.

I. Formal Matters

Interview Summary Under 37 C.F.R. §1.133

A telephonic interview occurred between Jodi Hartman and Examiner Escalante on May 18, 2004. The interview covered the 35 U.S.C. §102(a) rejection of claim 46 as being anticipated by gwmizer@bellsouth.net eBay ad (hereinafter “gwmizer”), the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claims 48 and 50 as being anticipated by United States Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0009184 to Shnier (hereinafter “Shnier”), the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claims 1, 34, and 45 as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 5,999,613 to Nabkel et al. (hereinafter “Nabkel”) in view of Shnier, and the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection of claim 47 as being unpatentable over Shnier in view of gwmizer. The Examiner indicated that the rejection of claims 1, 34, 45-46, 48, and 50 was not being withdrawn at that time, but with regards to claims 1, 34, 45, 48, and 50, the Examiner suggested claim language that would overcome the cited references. However, the Examiner stated that further consideration and search would be needed if the suggested amendments were made. The Examiner also agreed that the cited references do not teach or suggest the recitations of claim 47.

II. Claim Rejections

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(a)

Claim 46 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by gwmizer. As noted above, claim 46 has been canceled without prejudice, rendering the rejection to this claim moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 48-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Shnier. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As amended, claim 48 recites that a caller identification device comprises circuitry operative to associate a first flashing sequence with the plurality of directory numbers; to flash a light according to the first flashing sequence, and to display the caller identification information associated with the call if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory number associated with the call; to flash a light according to a second flashing sequence, and to display the caller identification information associated with the call if one of the plurality of directory numbers does not match the directory number associated with the call; and to flash a light according to a third flashing sequence, and to display a message that no caller identification information associated with the call is available if no caller identification information associated with the call is located.

Shnier does not teach or suggest a caller identification device as recited by claim 48. On the contrary, Shnier teaches an apparatus operative to classify and screen incoming telephone calls by receiving the caller's directory number or the reason code for callers with no directory number and determining whether the directory number is recognized, unrecognized, unavailable, or a repeat unknown. If a distinctive sound assignment has been made for the directory number, then Shnier teaches that a Recognized number LED is illuminated, and the distinctive sound is generated. If no distinctive sound assignment has been made for the directory number, then Shnier teaches that an Unrecognized number LED is illuminated. If the incoming call has a reason code instead of a caller's directory number, then Shnier teaches that an Unavailable number LED is illuminated. Finally, if either a call from the same unrecognized directory number or with the same reason code has been received previously, then Shnier teaches that a Repeat Unknown LED is illuminated, and the assigned repeat unknown call distinctive sound is generated. This is not analogous to the caller identification device recited by claim 48 because Shnier fails to teach or suggest that a first flashing sequence is associated with a plurality of directory numbers such that a LED is flashed according to the first flashing sequence if the caller's directory number

matches one of the plurality of directory numbers, a LED is flashed according to a second flashing sequence if the caller's directory number does not match one of the plurality of directory numbers, and a LED is flashed according to a third flashing sequence if no caller identification information is associated with the call. Instead, Shnier teaches that a Recognized number LED, Unrecognized number LED, Unavailable number LED, or Repeat Unknown LED is illuminated based on whether the directory number is recognized, unrecognized, unavailable, or a repeat unknown, without suggesting that a first, second, or third flashing sequence occurs if the directory number is recognized, unrecognized or unavailable.

For at least the reasons given above, claim 48 is allowable over Shnier. Claim 49 depends from claim 48 and is considered allowable over Shnier for at least these reasons. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In addition, claim 48 includes subject matter similar to that formerly recited by canceled claims 31-33. The Office Action relies on a combination of Nabkel, Shnier, and United States Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0183098 to Lee et al. (hereinafter "Lee") as teaching the features of claims 31-33. Applicants respectfully submit that the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee fails to make obvious a caller identification device as recited by claim 48.

Nabkel fails to teach or suggest the device recited by claim 48. To the contrary, Nabkel teaches a system for processing an incoming call during a call-in-progress operative to determine whether the call between the subscriber and the first caller can be interrupted by an incoming caller by comparing the ID number of the first caller to the ID numbers stored in the subscriber's profile. If the parameter for the ID number of the first caller indicates that the call-in-progress can be interrupted, then Nabkel teaches that the ID number for the incoming caller is determined and compared to the ID numbers in the subscriber's profile to determine if the incoming caller is authorized to interrupt. If the incoming caller can interrupt the call-in-progress, then Nabkel teaches that the incoming caller may be able to transfer to voice messaging, to proceed with the call, or to indicate importance of the call by continuing the stay on the line or hanging up and calling back later. This is not analogous to the device recited by claim 48 because Nabkel fails to teach or suggest that the system for processing an incoming call during a call-in-progress

is operative to associate a plurality of ID numbers with a first flashing sequence and then flash a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of ID numbers matches the ID number associated with the incoming call, flash a light according to a second flashing sequence if one of the plurality of ID numbers does not match the ID number associated with the incoming call, and flash a light according to a third flashing sequence if no ID number associated with the incoming call is obtained.

The teaching of Shnier, like the teaching of Nabkel, fails to teach or suggest the device recited by claim 48 for the reasons stated above.

The teaching of Lee, like the teaching of Nabkel and Shnier, also fails to teach or suggest the device recited by claim 48. Instead, Lee teaches a cellular phone operative to store a caller ID and a corresponding light position in a databank (see Table 1) such that when the caller ID of a specific calling party matches the caller ID stored in the databank, then a light emitting element representing the caller ID of the specific party is flashed, while other remaining light emitting elements are flashed in sequence. This is not analogous to the caller identification device recited by claim 48 because unlike claim 48, which recites that the device is operative to associate a first flashing sequence with a *plurality* of directory numbers and flash a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory number of the calling party, Lee teaches a cellular phone operative to associate a *single* caller ID with a light position and flash a light emitting element if the caller ID of the calling party matches the single caller ID associated with the light position. Therefore, Lee fails to teach or suggest a device operative to associate a plurality of caller IDs with a light position and flash a light emitting element if the caller ID of the caller party matches one of the plurality of caller IDs associated with the light position.

For at least the reasons given above, the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee fails to make obvious the features recited by claim 48. Claim 49 depends from claim 48 and is considered allowable over the combined teaching of Shnier and Lee for at least these reasons.

As amended, claim 50 recites a method of providing visual caller identification comprising, among other features, associating a first flashing sequence with a plurality of directory numbers; if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory

number associated with the call, then flashing a light according to the first flashing sequence, and displaying the caller identification information associated with the call; if one of the plurality of directory numbers does not match the directory number associated with the call, then flashing a light according to a second flashing sequence, and displaying the caller identification information associated with the call; and if no caller identification information associated with the call is located, then flashing a light according to a third flashing sequence, and displaying a message that no caller identification information associated with the call is available.

Shnier does not teach a method of providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 50. In contrast, Shnier teaches a sonic method of classifying and screening incoming telephone calls by receiving the caller's directory number or the reason code for callers with no directory number and determining whether the directory number is recognized, unrecognized, unavailable, or repeat unknown. If a distinctive sound assignment has been made for the directory number, then, as discussed above, Shnier teaches that the Recognized number LED is illuminated, and the distinctive sound is generated. If no distinctive sound assignment has been made for the directory number, then Shnier teaches that the Unrecognized number LED is illuminated. If the incoming call has a reason code instead of a caller's directory number, then Shnier teaches that the Unavailable number LED is illuminated. Finally, if either a call from the same unrecognized directory number or with the same reason code has been received previously, then Shnier teaches that the Repeat Unknown LED is illuminated, and the assigned repeat unknown call distinctive sound is generated. This is not analogous to the method of providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 50 because Shnier fails to teach or suggest associating a first flashing sequence with a plurality of directory numbers and flashing a LED according to the first flashing sequence if the caller's directory number matches one of the plurality of directory numbers, flashing a LED according to a second flashing sequence if the caller's directory number does not match one of the plurality of directory numbers, and flashing a LED according to a third flashing sequence if no caller identification information is associated with the call. Instead, Shnier teaches that a Recognized number LED, Unrecognized number LED, Unavailable number LED, or Repeat Unknown LED is illuminated based on whether the

directory number is recognized, unrecognized, unavailable, or a repeat unknown, without suggesting that a first, second, or third flashing sequence occurs if the directory number is recognized, unrecognized or unavailable.

For at least the reasons given above, claim 50 is allowable over Shnier. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In addition, as amended, claim 50 includes subject matter similar to that formerly recited by canceled claims 31-33. The Office Action rejects claims 31-33 as being unpatentable over the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee. Applicants respectfully assert that the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee fails to make obvious a method of providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 50.

Nabkel does not teach or suggest a method of providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 50. Instead, Nabkel discloses a method for processing incoming calls during a call-in-progress between a subscriber and a first caller by first determining whether the call between the subscriber and the first caller can be interrupted by an incoming caller by comparing the ID number of the first caller to the ID numbers stored in the subscriber's profile. If the parameter for the ID number of the first caller indicates that the call-in-progress can be interrupted, then Nabkel teaches that the ID number for the incoming caller is determined and compared to the ID numbers in the subscriber's profile to determine if the incoming caller is authorized to interrupt. If the incoming caller can interrupt the call-in-progress, then Nabkel teaches that the incoming caller may be able to transfer to voice messaging, to proceed with the call, or to indicate importance of the call by continuing the stay on the line or hanging up and calling back later. This is not analogous to the method recited by claim 50 because Nabkel fails to teach or suggest associating a plurality of ID numbers with a first flashing sequence and then flashing a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of ID numbers matches the ID number associated with the incoming call, flashing a light according to a second flashing sequence if one of the plurality of ID numbers does not match the ID number associated with the incoming call, and flashing a light according to a third flashing sequence if no ID number associated with the incoming call is obtained.

The teaching of Shnier, like the teaching of Nabkel, fails to teach or suggest the method recited by claim 50 for the reasons stated above.

The teaching of Lee, like the teaching of Nabkel and Shnier, also fails to teach or suggest the method as recited by claim 50. In contrast, Lee teaches a cellular phone operative to store a caller ID and a corresponding light position in a databank (see Table 1) such that when the caller ID of a specific calling party matches the caller ID stored in the databank, then a light emitting element representing the caller ID of the specific party is flashed, while other remaining light emitting elements are flashed in sequence. This is not analogous to the method recited by claim 50 because unlike claim 50 which recites associating a first flashing sequence with a *plurality* of directory numbers and flashing a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory number of the calling party, Lee teaches associating a *single* caller ID with a light position and flashing a light emitting element if the caller ID of the calling party matches the single caller ID associated with the light position. Therefore, Lee fails to teach or suggest associating a plurality of caller IDs with a light position and flashing a light emitting element if the caller ID of the caller party matches one of the plurality of caller IDs associated with the light position.

For at least the reasons given above, the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee fails to make obvious the features recited in claim 50.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Over Nabkel in View of Shnier

Claims 1, 34, and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nabkel in view of Shnier. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As amended, claim 1 recites that a method of providing visual caller identification comprises associating a first flashing sequence with the plurality of directory numbers; if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory number associated with the call, then flashing a light according to the first flashing sequence, and displaying the caller identification information associated with the call; if one of the plurality of directory numbers does not match the directory number associated with the call, then flashing a light according to a second flashing sequence, and displaying the caller identification information associated with the call; and if no caller identification

information associated with the call is obtained during the step of querying a database for caller identification information associated with the call, then flashing a light according to a third flashing sequence, and displaying a message that no caller identification information associated with the call is available.

Nabkel does not teach or suggest a method of providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 1. Instead, Nabkel discloses a method for processing incoming calls during a call-in-progress between a subscriber and a first caller by first determining whether the call between the subscriber and the first caller can be interrupted by an incoming caller by comparing the ID number of the first caller to the ID numbers stored in the subscriber's profile. If the parameter for the ID number of the first caller indicates that the call-in-progress can be interrupted, then Nabkel teaches that the ID number for the incoming caller is determined and compared to the ID numbers in the subscriber's profile to determine if the incoming caller is authorized to interrupt. If the incoming caller can interrupt the call-in-progress, then Nabkel teaches that the incoming caller may be able to transfer to voice messaging, to proceed with the call, or to indicate importance of the call by continuing the stay on the line or hanging up and calling back later. This is not analogous to the method recited by claim 1 because Nabkel fails to teach or suggest associating a plurality of ID numbers with a first flashing sequence and then flashing a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of ID numbers matches the ID number associated with the incoming call, flashing a light according to a second flashing sequence if one of the plurality of ID numbers does not match the ID number associated with the incoming call, and flashing a light according to a third flashing sequence if no ID number associated with the incoming call is obtained.

The Office Action relies on the teaching of Shnier to allegedly cure the above-noted deficiencies of the teaching of Nabkel. However, like the teaching of Nabkel, the teaching of Shnier does not teach or suggest a method of providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 1. Instead, as discussed above, Shnier teaches a sonic method of classifying and screening incoming telephone calls by receiving the caller's directory number or the reason code for callers with no directory number and determining whether the directory number is recognized, unrecognized, unavailable, or repeat unknown. If a distinctive sound assignment has been made for the directory number,

then, Shnier teaches that the Recognized number LED is illuminated, and the distinctive sound is generated. If no distinctive sound assignment has been made for the directory number, then Shnier teaches that the Unrecognized number LED is illuminated. If the incoming call has a reason code instead of a caller's directory number, then Shnier teaches that the Unavailable number LED is illuminated. Finally, if either a call from the same unrecognized directory number or with the same reason code has been received previously, then Shnier teaches that the Repeat Unknown LED is illuminated, and the assigned repeat unknown call distinctive sound is generated. This is not analogous to the method of providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 51 because Shnier fails to teach or suggest associating a first flashing sequence with a plurality of directory numbers and flashing a LED according to the first flashing sequence if the caller's directory number matches one of the plurality of directory numbers, flashing a LED according to a second flashing sequence if the caller's directory number does not match one of the plurality of directory numbers, and flashing a LED according to a third flashing sequence if no caller identification information is associated with the call.

For at least these reasons, the combined teaching of Nabkel and Shnier fails to make obvious the features recited in claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In addition, as amended, claim 1 includes subject matter similar to that formerly recited by canceled claims 31-33. For reasons given above, Applicants assert that the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee fails to make obvious a method of providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 1.

For at least the reasons stated above, the combined teaching of Nabkel and Shnier fails to teach or suggest the method recited by claim 1.

The teaching of Lee, like the teaching of Nabkel and Shnier, also fails to teach or suggest the method as recited by claim 1. In contrast, Lee teaches a cellular phone operative to store a caller ID and a corresponding light position in a databank (see Table 1) such that when the caller ID of a specific calling party matches the caller ID stored in the databank, then a light emitting element representing the caller ID of the specific party is flashed, while other remaining light emitting elements are flashed in sequence. This is not analogous to the method recited by claim 1 because unlike claim 1 which recites

associating a first flashing sequence with a *plurality* of directory numbers and flashing a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory number of the calling party, Lee teaches associating a *single* caller ID with a light position and flashing a light emitting element if the caller ID of the calling party matches the single caller ID associated with the light position.

For at least the reasons given above, the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee fails to make obvious the features recited by claim 1.

As amended, claim 34 recites that a method of providing visual caller identification in an Advanced Intelligent Network, including a switch, a service control point and a database of caller identification information, wherein the service control point is functionally connected to the switch, and wherein the method comprises associating a first flashing sequence with the plurality of directory numbers; flashing a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory number of the calling party; flashing a light according to a second flashing sequence if one of the directory numbers saved by the called party does not match the directory number of the calling party; and flashing a light according to a third flashing sequence if no caller identification information associated with the call is obtained.

Nabkel does not teach or suggest a method of providing visual caller identification in an Advanced Intelligent Network as recited by claim 34. A description of the teaching of Nabkel can be relied on from above. The teaching of Nabkel is not analogous to the method recited by claim 34 because Nabkel fails to teach or suggest associating a plurality of ID numbers with a first flashing sequence and then flashing a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of ID numbers matches the ID number associated with the incoming call, flashing a light according to a second flashing sequence if one of the plurality of ID numbers does not match the ID number associated with the incoming call, and flashing a light according to a third flashing sequence if no ID number associated with the incoming call is obtained.

The Office Action relies on the teaching of Shnier to allegedly cure the above-noted deficiencies of the teaching of Nabkel. However, like the teaching of Nabkel, the teaching of Shnier does not teach or suggest a method of providing visual caller identification in an Advanced Intelligent Network as recited by claim 34. A description

of the teaching of Shnier can be relied on from above. The teaching of Shnier is not analogous to the method recited by claim 34 because Shnier fails to teach or suggest associating a first flashing sequence with a plurality of directory numbers and flashing a LED according to the first flashing sequence if the caller's directory number matches one of the plurality of directory numbers, flashing a LED according to a second flashing sequence if the caller's directory number does not match one of the plurality of directory numbers, and flashing a LED according to a third flashing sequence if no caller identification information is associated with the call. Instead, Shnier teaches that a Recognized number LED, Unrecognized number LED, Unavailable number LED, or Repeat Unknown LED is illuminated based on whether the directory number is recognized, unrecognized, unavailable, or a repeat unknown, without suggesting that a first, second, or third flashing sequence occurs if the directory number is recognized, unrecognized or unavailable.

For at least these reasons, the combined teaching of Nabkel and Shnier fails to make obvious the features recited in claim 34. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

As amended, claim 45 recites that a system for providing visual caller identification comprises a caller identification device operative to associate a first flashing sequence with the plurality of directory numbers; to flash a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory number associated with the call; to flash a light according to a second flashing sequence if one of the plurality of directory numbers does not match the directory number associated with the call; and to flash a light according to a third flashing sequence if no caller identification information associated with the call is located.

Nabkel does not teach or suggest a system for providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 45. To the contrary, Nabkel teaches a system for processing an incoming call during a call-in-progress operative to determine whether the call between the subscriber and the first caller can be interrupted by an incoming caller by comparing the ID number of the first caller to the ID numbers stored in the subscriber's profile. If the parameter for the ID number of the first caller indicates that the call-in-progress can be interrupted, then Nabkel teaches that the ID number for the

incoming caller is determined and compared to the ID numbers in the subscriber's profile to determine if the incoming caller is authorized to interrupt. If the incoming caller can interrupt the call-in-progress, then Nabkel teaches that the incoming caller may be able to transfer to voice messaging, to proceed with the call, or to indicate importance of the call by continuing the stay on the line or hanging up and calling back later. This is not analogous to the system recited by claim 45 because Nabkel fails to teach or suggest that the system for processing an incoming call during a call-in-progress is operative to associate a plurality of ID numbers with a first flashing sequence and then flash a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of ID numbers matches the ID number associated with the incoming call, flash a light according to a second flashing sequence if one of the plurality of ID numbers does not match the ID number associated with the incoming call, and flash a light according to a third flashing sequence if no ID number associated with the incoming call is obtained.

The Office Action relies on the teaching of Shnier to allegedly cure the above-noted deficiencies of the teaching of Nabkel. However, like the teaching of Nabkel, the teaching of Shnier does not teach or suggest a system for providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 45. Instead, as discussed above, Shnier teaches an apparatus operative to classify and screen incoming telephone calls by receiving the caller's directory number or the reason code for callers with no directory number and determining whether the directory number is recognized, unrecognized, unavailable, or a repeat unknown. If a distinctive sound assignment has been made for the directory number, then Shnier teaches that a Recognized number LED is illuminated, and the distinctive sound is generated. If no distinctive sound assignment has been made for the directory number, then Shnier teaches that an Unrecognized number LED is illuminated. If the incoming call has a reason code instead of a caller's directory number, then Shnier teaches that an Unavailable number LED is illuminated. Finally, if either a call from the same unrecognized directory number or with the same reason code has been received previously, then Shnier teaches that a Repeat Unknown LED is illuminated, and the assigned repeat unknown call distinctive sound is generated. This is not analogous to the system recited by claim 45 because Shnier fails to teach or suggest that a first flashing sequence is associated with a plurality of directory numbers such that a LED is flashed

according to the first flashing sequence if the caller's directory number matches one of the plurality of directory numbers, a LED is flashed according to a second flashing sequence if the caller's directory number does not match one of the plurality of directory numbers, and a LED is flashed according to a third flashing sequence if no caller identification information is associated with the call. Thus, Shnier teaches that a particular LED is illuminated based on the caller's directory number or lack thereof, without suggesting that the LED is flashed according to a first, second, or third flashing sequence based on the caller's directory number or lack thereof.

For at least these reasons, the combined teaching of Nabkel and Shnier fails to make obvious the features as recited in claim 45. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In addition, as amended, claim 45 includes subject matter similar to that formerly recited by canceled claims 31-33. For reasons given above, Applicants assert that the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee fails to make obvious a system for providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 45.

For at least the reasons given above, the combined teaching of Nabkel and Shnier fails to teach or suggest a system for providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 45.

The teaching of Lee, like the teaching of Nabkel and Shnier, also fails to teach or suggest the system recited by claim 45. Instead, Lee teaches a cellular phone operative to store a caller ID and a corresponding light position in a databank (see Table 1) such that when the caller ID of a specific calling party matches the caller ID stored in the databank, then a light emitting element representing the caller ID of the specific party is flashed, while other remaining light emitting elements are flashed in sequence. This is not analogous to the system recited by claim 45 because unlike claim 45 which recites that the system is operative to associate a first flashing sequence with a *plurality* of directory numbers and flash a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory number of the calling party, Lee teaches a cellular phone operative to associate a *single* caller ID with a light position and flash a light emitting element if the caller ID of the calling party matches the single caller ID associated with the light position.

For at least the reasons given above, the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee fails to make obvious the features recited by claim 45.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Over Nabkel in View of Shnier and Further in View of Lee

Claims 2-10 and 12-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nabkel in view of Shnier and further in view of United States Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0183098 to Lee et al. (hereinafter “Lee”). In Applicants’ response filed on June 20, 2004, claims 12-26 were canceled, and claims 30-44 were added reciting subject matter similar to that of canceled claims 12-26. Thus, Applicants presume that the Examiner is actually rejecting claims 2-10 and 30-44 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nabkel in view of Shnier and further in view of Lee. By this amendment, claims 2-10, 31-33, and 35-43 are canceled without prejudice, rendering the rejection to these claims moot. With regards to claims 34 and 44, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

As amended, claim 34 recites that a method of providing visual caller identification in an Advanced Intelligent Network, including a switch, a service control point and a database of caller identification information, wherein the service control point is functionally connected to the switch, and wherein the method comprises associating a first flashing sequence with the plurality of directory numbers; flashing a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory number of the calling party; flashing a light according to a second flashing sequence if one of the directory numbers saved by the called party does not match the directory number of the calling party; and flashing a light according to a third flashing sequence if no caller identification information associated with the call is obtained.

For at least the reasons stated above, the combined teaching of Nabkel and Shnier fails to make obvious the features as recited in claim 34. The Office Action relies on the teaching of Lee to allegedly cure the above-noted deficiencies of the combined teachings of Nabkel and Shnier. However, like the teachings of Nabkel and Shnier, the teaching of Lee does not teach or suggest a method of providing visual caller identification in an Advanced Intelligent Network as recited by claim 34. In contrast, Lee teaches a cellular

phone operative to store a caller ID and a corresponding light position in a databank (see Table 1) such that when the caller ID of a specific calling party matches the caller ID stored in the databank, then a light emitting element representing the caller ID of the specific party is flashed, while other remaining light emitting elements are flashed in sequence. This is not analogous to the method recited by claim 34 because unlike claim 34 which recites associating a first flashing sequence with a *plurality* of directory numbers and flashing a light according to the first flashing sequence if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory number of the calling party, Lee teaches associating a *single* caller ID with a light position and flashing a light emitting element if the caller ID of the calling party matches the single caller ID associated with the light position. Therefore, Lee fails to teach or suggest associating a plurality of caller IDs with a light position and flashing a light emitting element if the caller ID of the caller party matches one of the plurality of caller IDs associated with the light position.

For at least these reasons, the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee fails to make obvious the features recited in claim 34. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

For at least the reasons stated above, claim 34 is allowable over the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee. Claim 44 depends from claim 34 and is considered allowable over the combined teaching of Nabkel, Shnier, and Lee for at least these reasons stated above.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) Over Shnier in View of Gwmizer

Claim 47 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shnier in view of gwmizer. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 47 recites that a method of providing visual caller identification comprises saving visual projection information for each of the plurality of directory numbers, and projecting the saved projection information associated with the directory number onto a projection surface if one of the plurality of directory numbers matches the directory number associated with the call.

Shnier does not teach or suggest a method of providing visual caller identification as recited by claim 47. On the contrary, Shnier teaches a sonic method of classifying and

screening incoming telephone calls by using distinctive sounds to identify the calling party, without suggesting saving visual projection information for each of a plurality of directory numbers and then projecting the saved projection information associated with the directory number onto a projection surface. Therefore, Shnier fails to disclose the features recited in claim 47.

The Office Action relies on the teaching of gwmizer to allegedly cure the above-noted deficiencies of the teaching of Shnier. However, like Shnier, gwmizer does not teach or suggest a method of providing caller identification as recited by claim 47. Instead, gwmizer discloses projecting phone caller ID onto a remote surface using a heads up display projection with florescent lighting and a prismatic lens or a transparent LCD laser light projection, without suggesting projecting saved projection information associated with the phone caller ID onto a remote surface.

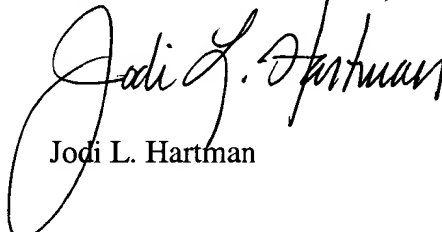
For at least these reasons, the combined teaching of Shnier and gwmizer fail to make obvious the features recited by claim 47. Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

For at least these reasons, Applicants assert that the pending claims 1, 30, 34, 44-45, and 47-50 are in condition for allowance. The Applicants further assert that this response addresses each and every point of the final Office Action, and respectfully requests that the Examiner pass this application with claims 1, 30, 34, 44-45, and 47-50 to allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at 404.954.5042.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD, LLC



Jodi L. Hartman

Reg. No. 55,251

• Merchant & Gould
• 3200 IDS Center
80 South 80th Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-2215
Telephone: 404.954.5100

39262

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE